

## Message Text

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73

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DLOS-06

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAL-01 /122 W

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R 261645Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8146

INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BONN

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STATE FOR OES/OFA; PASS COMMERCE/NOAA/WALLACE AND  
NMFS/BLONDIN

E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: EFIN, NEAFC

SUBJECT: NORTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION MEETING

REF: LONDON 18857; LONDON 19039

1. SUMMARY: THE NEAFC MEETING ENDED EARLY WITH THE EC ASSUMING ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MANAGEMENT AND QUOTA ALLOCATIONS OF THEIR 200 MILE ZONES IN THE FUTURE. AN ATTEMPT BY NON-EC MEMBERS TO USE 1977 AS A TRANSITIONAL YEAR WAS TURNED DOWN BY THE EC. FUTURE FISHING BY EASTERN-BLOC COUNTRIES IS PROBLEMATIC AS THEY INDICATED A LACK OF DESIRE TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE EC. END OF SUMMARY.

2. NEAFC MEETING TERMINATED PREMATURELY WHEN EC OBSERVER PIZZUTI INDICATED THAT EC WAS GOING TO ASSUME ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALLOCATING FISH QUOTAS WITHIN THEIR 200 MILE ZONE. THUS THE USUAL LENGTHY NEGOTIATING SESSIONS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN ALL PREVIOUS MEETINGS WERE ELIMINATED. THE QUOTAS FOR 1977 ARE EXPECTED TO BE ANNOUNCED BY THE EC SOMETIME IN DECEMBER. THE OPPOSITION TO THE EC WAS SPEARHEADED BY POLAND WHO TALKED EXTENSIVELY, BUT TO NO AVAIL, ABOUT USING 1977 AS A TRANSITIONAL YEAR, WITH QUOTAS BEING DECIDED AT THE CURRENT MEETING. THE EC OBSERVER BLUNTLY REFUSED TO ACCEPT ANY INTERIM MEASURES AND REPEATED THE EC'S WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE A BILATERAL FISHERIES TREATY WITH ALL NEAFC MEMBERS. AS THE POLISH DELEGATE HAD STATED IT WOULD BE ILLEGAL TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE EC BECAUSE OF THE EXISTING CONVENTION, THE QUESTION REMAINS AS TO WHAT COURSE EASTERN-BLOC COUNTRIES WILL NOW FOLLOW. THEY HAVE THREE ALTERNATIVES: THE FIRST TO RECOGNIZE THE EC'S AUTHORITY AND AGREE TO NEGOTIATE; SECOND, CONTINUE FISHING IN EC WATERS AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST; AND, THIRD, TO STOP ALL FISHING ACTIVITIES. THE POLISH DELEGATE ADMITTED PRIVATELY THE PROBLEM WOULD BE REFERRED TO WARSAW. THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATE PRIVATELY EXPRESSED EXTREME DISPLEASURE WITH THE RESULTS OF THE MEETING AS HE HAD SUPPORTED THE TRANSITIONAL YEAR SCHEME. HE ALSO INDICATED HE WOULD NOT KEEP NORWEGIAN VESSELS OUT OF THE NORTH SEA SHOULD THE EC AND NORWAY FAIL TO NEGOTIATE A TREATY.  
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3. FIRM DATES OF MARCH 29 - APRIL 4, 1977 WERE SET FOR THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING TO DISCUSS THE NEW CONVENTION. CUBA AND BULGARIA WERE ADMITTED AS COMMISSION MEMBERS ALTHOUGH THEIR PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUED FISHERIES IN THE NORTH SEA APPEAR TO BE DIM. ERIC GILLETTE, ONE OF THE U.K. COMMISSIONERS, IS RESIGNING FROM NEAFC BECAUSE OF NEW AND INCREASED RESPONSIBILITIES IN SCOTLAND

HE WILL ALSO BE RESIGNING FROM THE ICNAF CHAIRMANSHIP.

4. EC MEMBERS OF NEAFC WILL REMAIN IN LONDON THRU FRIDAY TO DISCUSS 1977 QUOTAS. LIAISON COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THE FOLLOWING TAC'S: COD 174,000 TONS; HADDOCK 190,000 TONS; WHITING 130,000 TONS; HERRING ZERO TONS; MACKEREL 155,000 TONS IN THE NORTH SEA, AND 182,000 TONS IN AREAS 6 AND 7. SPRAT LESS THAN 400,000 TONS. THE LIAISON COMMITTEE SPOKE QUITE STRONGLY ON THE NEED TO PROTECT HERRING AS THE SPAWNING STOCK IS NOW ONLY 10 PERCENT OF THE MINIMUM AMOUNT FELT NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN STOCKS IN A VIABLE CONDITION. THE QUESTION OF QUOTAS FOR EASTERN-BLOC COUNTRIES REMAINS UNRESOLVED AT THIS TIME.  
ARMSTRONG

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